AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please cancel the paragraph beginning at page 104, line 4 and replace as follows:

~~There is provided a~~ <u>A</u> method for implementing virtual bases with fixed offsets in a class hierarchy graph<u>, having nodes representing object classes and edges representing immediate inheritance therebetween,</u> corresponding to an object oriented program. ~~The graph has nodes representing object classes and edges representing immediate inheritance therebetween. The method~~ includes ~~the step of~~ determining whether a set N <u>including all nodes</u> is empty, ~~the set N including all nodes in the graph.~~ A node x is removed from ~~the set~~ N, when ~~the set~~ N is not empty. It is determined whether a set Y is empty, ~~the set~~ Y including nodes that directly and virtually inherit from ~~the node~~ x. <u>When Y is empty,</u> ~~A~~ return ~~is made~~ to ~~the step of~~ determining whether ~~the set~~ N is empty, ~~when the set Y is empty.~~ <u>otherwise A</u> a node y is removed from ~~the set~~ Y~~, when the set Y is not empty.~~ It is determined whether ~~the node~~ y is duplicated ~~in the graph.~~ <u>When y is duplicated,</u> ~~A~~ return ~~is made~~ to ~~the step of~~ determining whether ~~the set~~ Y is empty, ~~when the node y is duplicated.~~ <u>otherwise An</u> an edge e<u>, representing that y virtually inherits from x,</u> is replaced with an edge e', ~~when the node y is not duplicated~~ <u>representing that x has a fixed offset with respect to y.</u> ~~The edge e represents that the node y virtually inherits from the node x. The edge e' represents that the node x has a fixed offset with respect to the node y.~~ <u>Upon replacing e,</u> ~~A~~ return ~~is made~~ to ~~the step of~~ determining whether ~~the set~~ N is empty~~, upon replacing the edge e.~~

2